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turers, to get acquainted with me, if you please. I shall be glad of your acquaintance ; but if this proposal is not agreeable to you, I shall console myself, I shall be easy. I am not troublesome ; I never dispute ; I detest noise, and remain quiet in my corner." The three brothers, after listening attentively to the old man, wished to embrace him. "Oh, softly," said he to them, "I do not love great emotions ; I am delicate ; if you press me, you will stifle me. We must be friends before we caress ; if you wish to become such, do not occupy yourselves too much with me. I set more value on freedom than politeness, and have a great antipathy to all that is immoderate."

On finishing this discourse, he kissed each of the children, made a slight salute to the three brothers, smiled benignantly on Amine and Tai, and went to wait for them in their chamber. After having taken refreshments, Tai ordered beds to be prepared for his brothers.

The next day he shewed them his fields, his flocks, his beasts of burden, and all the riches he possessed. He likewise recounted to them the pleasures he enjoyed.

Beker would set to work the same day ; he wished to be the first to have Bothmendi for his friend. Mesran who had been first minister, became first shepherd. And the poet charged himself with the business of going to the city to sell the corn, wool, &c. ; his eloquence, he thought, would draw customers, and thus it might be yet useful. At the expiration of six months, Bothmendi was pleased with them all, and they spent a long and tranquil life in the bosom of contentment.\*

*To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.*

#### GENTLEMEN,

IF you have never been circumstanced as I am, you cannot well sympathise with the grievance of which I am about to complain, but perhaps you will think I deserve blame myself ; however in hopes that my remarks will meet the eye of my aggrieved, I will mention my case. I am married to a most noble and sensible woman ; she knows how to do every thing, and when to do it. On the contrary I am very apt to transact my business in a defective manner, and at a wrong time. My wife soon discovered my weakness, and as becomes an helpmate she imparted of her goods to me, and thereby has often caused my good fortune, and prevented disasters. No person more fully appreciates an obligation than I do, therefore I always expressed my gratitude in the warmest terms, attributing every happy turn of my affairs to her, and every misfortune to my own poor head. My wife became every day more and more of my opinion in this respect, and it was not very long until I recollect Pope's line,

" Men should be taught as tho' you taught them not."

Unhappily I am every day more convinced of the truth of this sentiment, and it sometimes enters into my rebellious head that nothing gives women more pleasure than to hear themselves boding forth ; but I take great pains to restrain this thought, and as I never gave it utterance before, you will be pleased to alter the form of the expression before you publish this paper, for in truth, I believe my wife is generally prompted to give me advice by great anxiety for my welfare. But

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\* It is useless to say, that Bothmendi, in the Persian language, signifies happiness.

I will no longer detain you with abstract matter, one instance is better than a sheet of sentiment.

One of our doors had used to creak, until I oiled it by my wife's advice; it is now never opened that it does not excite her eloquence on the necessity of oiling hinges, at least once in a few years. Now I set about oiling these hinges with the greatest pleasure, because I thought their newly acquired silence would be such a negative virtue as to produce no discussion, but I have done with oiling hinges. Last year our turf was detained in the bog by reason of wet weather, every time the sun shone I was seized to send for the turf. At length I had all my carts prepared in an interval between two showers; by the time they were ready, the rain commenced; I persisted in drawing home my turf, in the hope that the torment of having them wet would be such a lasting grievance as to prevent future improper interference. Alas! I fell into the hole of my own digging, for every day, and every hour, both when I arose to the business of the day, and when I sat down to rest, I was told that if the turf had been brought home a week before, all would have been well.

Numberless are the instances I could relate of my farming business being confused by too much solicitude on the part of my wife; sometimes I follow her directions for peace sake, and many times I confess I neglect doing what I ought to do, merely because I had been overruled with advice, and have a mind to shew my children, my servants, and even my wife herself, that I am master. Frequently I hurry my business over with the greatest rapidity that it may be finished before the advice begins twice. My hay took fire in consequence of this precipitance, and many times

my potatoes were not half grown when they were dug. On the contrary if I attempt to shew my abilities by putting in my word about domestic affairs, I am immediately silenced by being informed that what I mentioned was just going to be done, my wife had been thinking of it herself, but was only waiting for a suitable opportunity; or else the thing ought not to be done at all. If I remark that my pretty little girl has a dirty face, or a hole in her freck, my wife sighs, and says, "Really, my dear, I have so many things to do, and so many things to attend to, that it is impossible for me to mind such little matters as these." This is a standing remark on all such occasions, whether the house or the children be out of repair. Be pleased, gentlemen, to give the ladies a hint to be first attentive to their own business, and if they see a necessity to interfere in our province, that they do it with delicacy, and above all let them not dwell long on this subject. I am told there is a method of making foolish husbands appear sensible. If you are acquainted with this knack make it known to your readers, and inform them that having a sensible husband increases a woman's consequence.\*

HOMO.

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*To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.*

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ON COURAGE.

THE intelligent author of practical education, having declined giving any lessons on the cultivation of

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\* Owing to material inaccuracies in the copier of this article, the sense was so obscure in many places, that some omissions have been necessarily made.